Relief assistance to Maharashtra

†4867. SHRIDATTA MEGHE : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the relief and assistance package worth Rs. 22S0 crore has been provided to the flood and drought affected areas and the States of the country;

(b) if so, the share of Maharashtra therein and the details of development work on which the same is likely to be incurred; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ID. SWAMI): (a) An assistance of Rs. 4549.31 crore had been approved for undertaking relief measures to States affected by floods and drought during 2002-03. Of this Rs. 2121.75 crore were released from the National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF) and the balance amount was available under the Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) to which the Central Government contributes 75%.

(b) and (c) In case of Maharashtra, a request was received for assistance for providing relief measures after the floods in Jume, 2002. The request was examined. As the State Government had adequate funds under Calamity Relief Fund, no assistance was required to be released from NCCF. The expenditure on development work or for restoration of infrastructure is required to be met out of the State Plan funds as per the CRF and NCCF Schemes which are based on the recommendations of the Eleventh Finance Commission.

Seizure of Opium

†4868. PROF. R.B.S VARMA : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) the year-wise details of the quantity of opium seized from smugglers during the last three years;

(b) the number of smugglers arrested for opium-smuggling during the last three years; and

(c) the number of foreign and Indian smugglers separately out of above?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRIHARIN PATHAK): (a) The quantity of opium seized from smugglers during the last three years is given below:

Year	Quantity in (Kg)
2000	2684
2001	2533
2002	1867

(b) and (c) The number of smugglers (Indian, foreign and total) arrested for opium smuggling during the last three years is as under:

Year	Number of persons arrested		
	Indian	Foreigners	Total
2000	1585	1	1586
2001	1401	2	1403
2003	1342	1	1343

Average rape cases in the country

4869. SHRI. K. RAMA MOHANA RAO : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that according to the National Crime Research Bureau, on an average, 15,000 rapes are taking place every year;

(b) if so, the measures Government are taking to reduce this menace in the country;

(c) whether the Ministry can think of introducing capital punishments for the accused; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI ID. SWAMI): (a) As per data available with the National Crime Records Bureau, 15151,15468, 16496 and 16619 rape cases were reported in the years 1998,1999,2000 and 2001 respectively in the country.

(b) The Government of India have been advising State Governments from time to time to give more focused attention to improving the administration of the criminal justice system and take such measures as are necessary for the prevention of crime against women. Most of the States and Union Territories